
**PRACTICE
RESEARCH IN
SOCIAL DESIGN:
DEFINITIONS
CONTEXTS
FUTURES**

Two-Day Symposium

19 May 2022, 6pm – 8pm

20 May 2022, 9am – 6pm

In person at Chelsea College of Arts, 16 John Islip Street, London SW1P 4JU

Online: Zoom

This event brings together perspectives on practice research in design in relation to, and in the context of, urgent social and sustainability challenges. Organised by the [Social Design Institute](#) at University of the Arts London (UAL), one of the UK's leading specialist art and design higher education institutions, this symposium will share examples of practice research in design alongside enabling critical discussion of the possibilities and consequences of this form of research and development, and the contexts in which it has emerged.

Designed to facilitate wide-ranging scholarly dialogue whilst upholding a commitment to reduced international travel, the symposium will comprise a mix of formats: livestreamed panel discussions, video showcases of examples of practice research by researchers and doctoral candidates at UAL, and complementary digital interactions.

This symposium is convened by the [Social Design Institute](#) in collaboration with the [Centre for Sustainable Fashion](#), [Centre for Circular Design](#), [Design Against Crime Research Centre](#) and the [University of the Arts London](#) (UAL).

Schedule

Day One

Thursday, 19 May 2022

18:00 – 20:00

Please Note: All times are BST (British Summer Time) and the programme may be subject to last-minute changes.

18:00 – 18:30	Registration Drinks and light refreshments upon arrival
18:30 – 18:35	Welcome and introductory remarks Professor Lucy Kimbell, Director, Social Design Institute Professor David Mba, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise, UAL
18:35 – 19:35	Opening Panel: Setting the Scene
19:35 – 20:00	Drinks reception and close

Day Two
Friday, 20 May 2022
09:00 – 18:00

Please Note: All times are BST (British Summer Time) and the programme may be subject to last-minute changes.

09:00 – 09:20	Registration Tea, coffee and pastries upon arrival.
09:20 – 09:30	Welcome and introductory remarks: Professor Lucy Kimbell, Director of the Social Design Institute
09:30 – 10:40	Panel Two Definitions: Knowledge, boundaries, interventions, methodologies
10:40 – 11:00	Tea and coffee
11:00 – 12:00	Panel Three Realities of doing design practice research
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 14:00	Panel Four Contexts: Infrastructures, drivers, narratives
14:00 – 14:15	Comfort break
14:15 – 15:25	Panel Five Doctoral study in practice research in social design and design for sustainability
15:25 – 15:45	Tea and coffee
15:45 – 17:00	Panel Six Futures for practice research in social design: Opportunities, challenges, demands
17:00 – 18:30	Drinks Reception

Programme Notes

Day One

Thursday, 19 May 2022

18:00 – 20:00

18:00 – 18:30 Registration

18:30 – 18:35 Welcome and introductory remarks

Professor Lucy Kimbell, Director,
Social Design Institute

Professor David Mba, Deputy Vice-Chancellor,
Research, Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise,
UAL

18:35 – 19:35 Opening Panel: Setting the Scene

This session sets the scene by situating practice research in design in a broader context. It shares perspectives from other academic fields and professional practices that use practice research to advance knowledge and develop responses to social and sustainability issues. What are the achievements and what has been learned from using this approach? What are the barriers and enablers to carrying out high quality practice research? What outcomes can practice researchers work towards?

Chair: [Professor Lucy Kimbell](#), Social Design Institute, UAL

Speakers:

Professor Harriet Hawkins, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, UK
Indy Johar, Dark Matter Labs, UK

[Professor Pratap Rughani](#), London College of Communication, UAL, UK

19:35 – 20:00 Drinks reception and close

Day Two
Friday, 20 May 2022
09:00 – 18:00

09:00 – 09:20 Registration

09:20 – 09:30 Welcome and introductory remarks:
Professor Lucy Kimbell, Director of the Social
Design Institute

09:30 – 10:40 Panel Two
Definitions:
Knowledge, boundaries, interventions,
methodologies

This session reviews competing definitions of practice research in design in relation to social and sustainability issues. In a context in which design research is increasingly oriented to ethics and care, what forms of practice research are emerging? What makes it distinctive? How can we make sense of the intersections with other forms of practice research such as in music or the social sciences?

Chair: [Professor Alison Prendiville](#), London College of Communication, UAL

Speakers:

Professor Emerita Anne Boddington, Kingston University

Dr Kat Jungnickel, Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK

[Dr Patrycja Kaszynska](#), Social Design Institute, UAL, UK

Dr Lesley-Ann Noel, North Carolina State University, United States

Professor Cameron Tonkinwise, University of Technology Sydney, Australia

10:40 – 11:00 Tea and coffee

11:00 – 12:00 Panel Three
Realities of doing design practice research

This session brings together different perspectives on what it means to do practice research in design in relation to social and sustainability issues, including doctoral students and early career researchers. What can be achieved through practice research in design that can't be achieved so effectively through other forms of knowledge production? How do practice researchers negotiate the different proximities that exist within research contexts? How do design researchers balance

the need to produce new knowledge alongside making a contribution to practice or to a social situation or context?

Chair: [Dr Rathna Ramanathan](#), Central Saint Martins, UAL

Speakers:

Dr Hena Ali, London College of Communication, UAL, UK

Dr Fehér Bori, Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design (MOME), Hungary

Dr Rosie Hornbuckle, Centre for Sustainable Design, UAL, UK

Associate Professor Thomas Markussen, University of Southern Denmark

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 14:00 Panel Four
Contexts:
Infrastructures, drivers, narratives

This session offers a critical assessment of the histories and genealogies of practice research in social design. Why has practice research emerged? How do differing institutional locations result in different agendas, forms of practice research and consequences? What logics and narratives are at play in the development of practice research? What inequalities and conditions does it reproduce?

Chair: [Professor Kate Goldsworthy](#), Centre for Circular Design, UAL

Speakers:

Professor Yoko Akama, RMIT, Australia

Professor Guy Julier, Department of Design, Aalto University, Finland

Associate Professor Eva Knutz, University of Southern Denmark

[Dr Lara Salinas](#), London College of Communication, UAL, UK

14:00 – 14:15 Comfort break

14:15 – 15:25 Panel Five
Doctoral study in practice research in social
design and design for sustainability

This session reflects on the possibilities and conditions associated with doctoral research in social design that uses or includes practice. What are the enablers and barriers to carrying out practice-based research in social design? What infrastructures and narratives are required for doctoral researchers working in this way to succeed? To what extent can we (re)imagine the publics for doctoral research through practice?

Chair: [Professor Sandy Black](#), Centre for Sustainable Fashion, UAL

Speakers:

Dr Catherine Dormor, Head of Research Programmes, Royal College of Art
Kadian Gosler, PhD researcher, London College of Fashion, UAL, UK
[Professor Jeremy Till](#), Head of Central Saint Martins and Pro-Vice Chancellor of UAL, UK
Professor Laurene Vaughan, RMIT, Australia
Dr Alex Wilkie, Department of Design, Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK

15:25 – 15:45 Tea and coffee

15:45 – 17:00 Panel Six
Futures for practice research in social design:
Opportunities, challenges, demands

This session anticipates some of the future opportunities and challenges facing those carrying out, enabling or participating in practice research in social design. What are the significant factors inside and around universities that influence practice research and researchers in social design? What are the career paths and pipelines for those committed to practice research in relation to social issues and sustainability? How should university policies, infrastructure and training look from this perspective? What are relevant factors within national research and innovation systems, and how does the UK situation look compared to others in the EU and beyond? Looking ahead to 2030, what should change in and around universities to advance practice research in design?

Chair: [Professor Ramia Maze](#), London College of Communication, UAL

Speakers:

Dr Ahmed Ansari, New York University, United States, UK
Dr Andrea Botero, Aalto University, Finland and Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia
Professor Rachel Cooper, Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts, UK
Professor Claudia Mareis, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany
Professor Joyce Yee, School of Design, Northumbria University, UK

17:00 – 18:30 Drinks reception

Biographies

Prof. Yoko Akama is in the School of Design, RMIT University, Naarm (Melbourne) in a country now called Australia. Her practice is shaped by plural worldviews, including her Japanese heritage, to consider how many futures can be co-designed together. She is a recipient of several national and international awards for collaborative work with self-determining Indigenous nations and regional communities preparing for disaster. Currently, she is leading a project on leadership and mentoring for women in creative sectors through the Designing Social Innovation in Asia Pacific (DESIAP) programme.

Dr Hena Ali is the acting course leader and a senior lecturer on the MA Service Design Course at London College of Communication, University of the Arts London. She is a UK and Pakistan-based designer, researcher, and academic. Ali is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy UK & the Royal Society of Arts, London. She is an advisor on the Board of Studies at Indus Valley School of Art, Pakistan. Hena holds a practice-led doctorate in 'Graphic Communication Design for Sustainable Social Innovation' from Central Saints Martins, UAL. She has taught and worked in the area of participatory innovation for over ten years. She has led courses and organisations through effective strategy and leadership development, and has enabled new design-led approaches to today's social and business challenges. She engages collaborative design practice as a primary tool to create impact.

Dr Ahmed Ansari's research interests intersect between design studies and history, philosophy of technology, and critical cultural studies, particularly studies of decolonisation and globalisation, with an area focus on visual and material culture in the Indian subcontinent. He is also interested more generally in the informing ontologies and epistemologies at work in, and the ethics and politics of, design practice, pedagogy, and research, and in issues of the globalisation of knowledge. He has a Doctorate in Design Studies and a Masters in Interaction Design from Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelor's in Communication Design from the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture. He was a founding member of the Decolonising Design Platform.

Dr Jocelyn Bailey is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the Social Design Institute of the University of Arts London. Her experience encompasses both practice and research on the borders of design and government (from policy development to service delivery), in a range of different roles across the design sector - in advocacy and lobbying, parliamentary engagement, evaluation, practice, academic research and critique. She holds a BA in Architecture from the University of Cambridge, an MA in History of Art from Birkbeck College, and a PhD in Design with the University of Brighton. Her thesis explores the remodelling of design practice and discourse to be palatable and relevant to the public sector in the UK, and the ways in which the design 'apparatus' governs and disciplines those designers and civil servants caught up in it.

Prof. Sandy Black is Professor of Fashion and Textile Design and Technology in the Centre for Sustainable Fashion, a UAL research centre based at London College of Fashion. Having previously run a successful fashion knitwear label, Sandy researches and publishes on knitwear, textiles and fashion design and business in

social and sustainability contexts. She has authored pioneering texts on sustainable fashion and the history of knitwear. She is the founder of the Fashion Practice: Design, Creative Process and the Fashion Industry journal, published since 2009, which she co-edits. She supervises PhD candidates in design-led and practice-based research intersecting fashion, textiles, technology, sustainability, culture and industry.

Dr Andrea Botero is a Colombian-born, Finland-based designer and researcher. Her design works explores technologies, services, and media for collectives and communities. Through her research work she aims to understand how collectives come to understand the design spaces available to them and how designers support infrastructuring processes around those spaces. Andrea has a Doctor of Arts in New Media, and an MA in Product and Strategic Design both from Aalto University. Her BA is in Industrial Design from Universidad Nacional de Colombia. She works as Research Fellow at the School of Art, Design and Architecture in Aalto University (FIN) and is also Adjunct Professor at the Universidad de Los Andes (COL).

Prof. Rachel Cooper is Distinguished Professor of Design Management and Policy at Lancaster University. She is founding Director of [Imagination Lancaster](#) - an open and exploratory design-led research centre conducting applied and theoretical research into people, products, places and their interactions. She has published extensively in design, including books, 'Designing Sustainable Cities', 'The Handbook of Wellbeing and the Environment' and 'Living in Digital Worlds: Designing the digital public space'. She is series editor of the Routledge series Design for Social Responsibility. She was founding editor of the Design Journal and also founding President of the European Academy of Design. She was a Lead Expert for the UK Government Foresight programme on the Future of Cities (2013-2016), was on the UK Academy of Medical Sciences Working group addressing 'The Health of the Public 2040' (2015-16) and is Chair of the UK Prevention Research Partnership, Scientific Advisory Board. She is currently President of the Design Research Society.

Dr Catherine Dormor received her practice-based PhD from UAL and Norwich University of the Arts and continues to write, practice and research across the expanded field of textiles. Her research interests lie in the structures and language of textile, cloth and materiality and gender. She is currently Head of Research Programmes and Reader in Textile Practices at the Royal College of Art.

Dr Bori Fehér is an architect, social designer focused on resilience and sustainability. She is the Head of Social Design HUB at Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design's Innovation Center in Budapest, where for more than a decade she has facilitated students and researchers in social, ecological and humanitarian design projects, working with underprivileged communities on the rural periphery of Hungary. Since 2014 she has been a Visiting Scholar at MICA Center for Social Design in Baltimore, USA. Previously Bori worked as an architect in New York. She is the Co-Founder and Co-Chair of the internationally unique Social Design Network.

Prof. Kate Goldsworthy has worked in the field of circular and sustainable fashion and textiles for over 20 years. As Professor of Circular Design and Innovation and

Co-Director of UAL's Centre for Circular Design (CCD), her research focus is in the alignment of environmental science and circular design practice through interdisciplinary research. Her methods are primarily practice-led, with a focus on materials and manufacturing innovation. Kate is Deputy Director and Co-Investigator on the Business of Fashion, Textiles and Technology (BFTT) Creative R&D Partnership, involving R&D with multiple UK-based SMEs to progress circular and sustainable technology innovation in the FTT sector.

Kadian Gosler is a theory and practice-based PhD Candidate within the Fashion & Textile and Design department at the University of the Arts London; exploring experience through a multi-perspective approach in the design and development of Bra Wearables — a subsection of smart bras. Her interdisciplinary interests include the design, history and consumption of intimate apparel, experience-centred and emotion-centred design, design processes, wearables, dress and embodiment. Kadian has 10+ years as a professional lingerie designer and merchandiser; completing a Masters in Merchandising and Management from the Academy of Art University; and a Bachelors, Magna Cum Laude, in Intimate Apparel Design from the Fashion Institute of Technology.

Prof. Harriet Hawkins is a geographer working at the intersection of geographical concerns with place, space and the environment, and practice research and arts and humanities scholarship. She is currently leading an ERC funded interdisciplinary team exploring the value and potential of creative responses to the challenges of understanding, using and preserving the subsurface (under land, sea and ice). This five-year project builds on Harriet's previous work exploring arts and environmental change, including questioning the complex geographies of the relationship between practice and research, and the possibilities this offers for reshaping how the discipline of geography understands and practices research. Harriet is professor of GeoHumanities at Royal Holloway, University of London.

Dr Rosie Hornbuckle is Senior Researcher at Centre for Circular Design, Chelsea College of Arts and Service Futures Lab, London College of Communication. Rosie's research focuses on working across disciplines and sectors, and in multi-stakeholder contexts to develop design methodologies for complex systemic transitions. Rosie has developed her practice through enacting translational approaches, often by developing visual and tactile tools and methods, within the context of large consortia innovation projects which present 'complex collaborations'. Rosie leads the collaborative methodology on the most recent of these EU H2020 projects – HEREWEAR – which focuses on 'bio-economies' relating to local and circular textiles and clothing ecosystems.

Indy Johar is an architect, co-founder of 00 (project00.cc) and most recently Dark Matter, Studio Master at the Architectural Association. Indy, on behalf of 00, has co-founded multiple social ventures from Impact Hub Westminster to Impact Hub Birmingham, along with working with large global multinationals and institutions to support their transition to a positive Systems Economy. He has also co-led research projects such as the Compendium for the Civic Economy, whilst supporting several 00 explorations/experiments including the wikihouse.cc, opendesk.cc. Indy is a non-executive director of WikiHouse Foundation and RIBA Trustee and Advisor to Mayor of London on Good Growth. Most recently he has founded Dark Matter - a field

laboratory focused on radically redesigning the bureaucratic and institutional infrastructure of our cities, regions and towns for a more democratic, distributed great transition.

Prof. Guy Julier is Professor of Design Leadership and Head of Research in the Department of Design at Aalto University. In 2019 he was Commissioner of 'Everyday Experiments', the Finnish Pavilion for the XXII Triennale di Milano. His most recent book, *Economies of Design* (2017), provides an analysis of the multiple roles of design in the contexts of contemporary, neoliberal orthodoxies and beyond. He is also a co-editor of *Design and Creativity: Policy, Management and Practice* (2009) and *Design Culture: Objects and Approaches* (2019). Before moving to Finland in 2018, he was the Victoria and Albert Museum/University of Brighton Principal Research Fellow in Contemporary Design.

Dr Kat Jungnickel is a Reader in Sociology, Director of Methods Lab and PI on the European Research Council-funded project '[Politics of Patents: Reimagining Citizenship via Clothing Inventions 1820-2020](#)'. Together with a team of sewing social scientists she is exploring citizenship and changing socio-political issues via speculative sewing – researching, reconstructing, and re-imagining a collection of lesser-known clothing inventions from patent archives. Recent publications include: (ed) *Transmissions: Critical tactics for making and communicating research* (MIT Press 2020), *Creative Practice Ethnographies* (with Hjorth, Harris and Coombs, Rowman & Littlefield 2020) and *Bikes and Bloomers: Victorian Women Inventors and their Extraordinary Cycle Wear* (Goldsmiths Press 2018).

Dr Patrycja Kaszynska is Senior Research Fellow at the Social Design Institute, University of the Arts London. She is Principal Investigator for the Scoping Culture and Heritage Capital research funded by AHRC and DCMS, led the AHRC's Cultural Value Scoping Project and was Project Researcher for the AHRC's Cultural Value Project. Her primary interest lies in valuation practices. Her research is at the cross-section of critical theory, pragmatic philosophy, cultural policy and design as they converge in valuation studies and in relation to creative practices.

Prof. Lucy Kimbell is Director, Social Design Institute, and Professor of Contemporary Design Practices at University of the Arts London. She is also Associate Fellow at Said Business School, University of Oxford where she was on the faculty for five years. Her research looks at the emergence and development of 'design thinking' and the use of design expertise to address organisational, social and public policy issues. Lucy was AHRC design research fellow in Policy Lab, a team in the Cabinet Office in 2014-15 and works with a team in the EU Joint Research Centre using foresight and design to develop policy.

Dr Eva Knutz is Associate Professor and co-founder of the Social Design Unit, at the University of Southern Denmark. In her research, teaching and work, Knutz is interested in methodologies of practice-based design research and cross-disciplinary exchanges between social design, participatory design and design fiction. Knutz is originally trained in art and design and her portfolio reflects long-term collaboration with both researchers and practitioners within Healthcare Services and the Prison and Probation Service. Over the years she has developed a number of prototypes

and research artefacts (games, probes, kits and tools) aimed at being beneficial for marginalized or vulnerable groups in society.

Prof. Dr Claudia Mareis is an expert in design, cultural history and theory. Since 2021, she has been Professor of Design and History of Knowledge at the Department of Cultural History and Theory at the Humboldt University of Berlin where she is also the co-director of the interdisciplinary research program 'Matters of Activity. Image Space Material'. From 2013 to 2021, she directed the Institute for Experimental Design and Media Cultures (IXDM) as well as the Critical Media Lab at the FHNW Academy of Art and Design in Basel. She has also held positions at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, the University of the Arts Berne, the University of Basel, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge/MA, and the Vilnius Academy of Art. From 2016 to 2020 she was the vice president of the Swiss Design Network (SDN), and from 2018 to 2021, she represented the field of Design and Art Research as a member of the National Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

Prof. Thomas Markussen is Associate Professor and co-founder of the Social Design Unit, at the University of Southern Denmark. The unit has carried out a number of social design projects in the Danish public sector as well as the prison and probation service. His work focuses on how design can be used as a political and critical aesthetic practice, notably in the fields of social design, design activism and design fiction. In addition, he is the author of several articles and contributions to edited volumes dealing with questions pertaining to practice research in design.

Prof. Ramia Mazé became Professor in Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability at London College of Communication, UAL in 2020. She has been an editor of the leading scholarly journal *Design Issues* since 2016. Previously, in Finland, she was a professor at Aalto University and, prior to that, she was based in Sweden and worked at Konstfack, the Interactive Institute and other institutions. A designer and architect by training, her PhD is in interaction design. She has led, published, and exhibited widely through major interdisciplinary and international practice-based design research projects. She specialises in participatory, critical and politically engaged design practices, as well as "research through design" and feminist epistemologies.

Dr Lesley-Ann Noel is an Assistant Professor at the College of Design at North Carolina State University. Her current research focuses on co-design, equity, social justice, and speculative design in public health, social innovation, and design education. She is the Co-Chair of the Pluriversal Design Special Interest Group of the Design Research Society.

Dr Alison Prendiville is Professor of Service Design at London College of Communication, University of the Arts London. Her research intersects with science and technology innovation with a focus on open, socially responsive co-design processes in the areas of human and animal health systems. Alison's research is transdisciplinary working with experts and community members and applying co-design practices to translate and co-create interventions to envision new futures whilst considering the implications for policy. Her most recent work has been focused on antimicrobial resistance and the use of design methods to explore new service

practice ecologies in nursing in the UK, antibiotic usage in the poultry supply chain, and user-driven diagnostics for a One-Health approach in India.

Dr Rathna Ramanathan is a typographer, researcher and educator known for her expertise in intercultural communication, and alternative publishing practices. She is Dean of Academic Strategy and Reader in Intercultural Communication at Central Saint Martins. Whilst based in London, Rathna's research and practice are predominantly focused in South Asia. This 'critical position' of situating between two cultural contexts is crucial to her role as an academic. For the past 30 years, Rathna has headed research-led, intercultural, multi-platform graphic communication design research projects, all fuelled by a love for, and life-long interest in typography and language, and a belief that communication is a fundamental human right.

Prof. Pratap Rughani is an award-winning documentary filmmaker who has presented and written widely about the relationship between film, philosophy, and the evolution of post-colonial thought. He is Associate Dean of Research and Professor of Documentary Practices at London College of Communication, where he also wrote the MA Documentary Film course. Pratap is committed to innovation and developing inclusive curricula. He has worked extensively to promote cross-cultural interchange through teaching, research, and documentary film practice. For his individual excellence, Pratap was awarded a prestigious National Teaching Fellowship in 2013 by the Higher Education Academy.

Dr Lara Salinas is a design researcher and educator with over 10 years' experience in Creative Exchange, carrying out research into, for and through Knowledge Exchange in arts and design. She is Senior Research Fellow in Knowledge Exchange at UAL, Senior Lecturer on the MA Service Experience Design and Innovation course, Knowledge Exchange Coordinator for the Design School, and co-founder of Service Futures Lab at London College of Communication. Lara holds a practice-led PhD in Creative Exchange from ImaginationLancaster (Lancaster University), pioneering novel approaches to 'research-through-knowledge exchange' as part of the AHRC KE Hub for the Creative Economy (2012-2016). In 2020 she was awarded an AHRC Fellowship to research the contribution of design to public services in the context of KE and her work has been published and presented both nationally internationally.

Prof. Jeremy Till is an architect, educator and writer. As an architect, he worked with Sarah Wigglesworth Architects on their pioneering building, 9 Stock Orchard Street, which is seen as an innovator in climate-informed design. As an educator, Till is Head of Central Saint Martins, Pro Vice-Chancellor at the University of Arts London and UAL lead on climate action. As a writer, Till's extensive work includes the books *Flexible Housing*, *Architecture Depends* and *Spatial Agency*, all three of which won the RIBA President's Award for Research. His most recent research project, *Architecture after Architecture*, investigates the future of spatial practice in the face of the climate emergency; work from the project is collected on www.mould.earth.

Prof. Cameron Tonkinwise is Professor of Design Studies at University Technology Sydney. He was the Director of UTS' Design Innovation Research Centre, a service design research agency internationally renowned for its 'frame creation' approach.

Cameron returned to Australia after a decade in the USA where he was Director of Doctoral Studies at Carnegie Mellon University's School of Design and Co-Chair of the Tishman Environment and Design Center at The New School in New York City. Cameron is known for his advocacy around Design Studies, and more recently the development of Transition Design with colleagues at CMU.

Prof. Laurene Vaughan PhD is Professor of Design at RMIT University, where she currently serves as Dean in the School of Design. She was the Nierenberg Chair, Distinguished Professor of Design, at Carnegie Mellon University, 2012 – 2013. Internationally recognised as a leader in interdisciplinary and applied design research, her research, leadership and creative practice takes numerous forms. Laurene's research investigates the interactive and situated nature of cultural production, place, care, and design methods and practices that enable this – both analogue and digital. Her most recent edited collections are *Practice Based Design Research* and *Design as a Practice of Care* (2017, 2019, Bloomsbury Academic).

Dr Alex Wilkie is Reader in Design and Social Science (Goldsmiths). His interests combine science and technology studies (STS), empirical philosophy and experimental practice-led design research which he takes up to engage with more-than-human futures in relation to energy-demand reduction, healthcare and computational technology as well as sociological analysis of design practice. He is an editor of the Dispositions series (Bristol University Press), *Inventing the Social* (Mattering Press), *Speculative Research* (Routledge) and *Studio Studies* (Routledge).

Prof. Joyce Yee is Professor of Design and Social Innovation at Northumbria School of Design, UK. She co-founded the Designing Social Innovation in Asia-Pacific network (www.desiap.org) in 2015 with Dr Yoko Akama, RMIT in Australia, as a peer learning network for social innovation practitioners using design. Her research focuses on culturally diverse and locally relevant practices that challenge the dominant industrialized and western-centric models of design.

New working paper on practice research in design

UAL's Social Design Institute is delighted to introduce a new working paper on practice research that offers a nuanced and up to date definition of what practice research means in design and the arts, authored by Institute Research Fellows Dr Patrycja Kaszynska and Dr Jocelyn Bailey and Institute Director, Professor Lucy Kimbell. Symposium participants may find it useful to read the paper ahead of the event.

[Read the paper \(PDF, 451KB\)](#)

If you have any questions about the event, please contact socialdesigninstitute@arts.ac.uk.